

BAR HILL DEVELOPMENTS LTD

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26th June, 1969

Dear Sir,

It is now almost a year since we acquired Bar Hill Developments Ltd. from Holland & Hannen and Cubitts and I thought it might be a good thing if I wrote you a progress report and told you of our hopes for the future.

Perhaps, most importantly, the school is now open in the Village and I am very glad that the children have so little distance to travel and are getting the love and care at school as well as at home.

We have seen the designs for the new Church and I hope very much that work will start on this in the not too distant future. You will know that it is always a question of money and we are giving the site in order to help forward this project. The supermarket and five of the shops are now open and trading and we have enquiries for other traders to come in. The terms for the lease of the land for the erection of the pub have been agreed as have those of the lease for the petrol filling station. Planning approval has been granted in both cases.

We have built five factories in addition to that occupied by Cambridge Consultants, lettings have been agreed on three of them and one is already occupied. We have commissioned an architect to prepare a plan for an office block for the Village and we hope we may be successful in letting this before we build it but if not, we shall seriously consider building it forthwith.

The design for the flyover on the A604 has been completed and drawings are now with the County Council and the Ministry of Transport. The contractors are working on the price and I certainly hope that we can start work later this summer. In phases 1 and 2 of the housing, 201 properties have been built and 166 of these have been sold. There are many others under negotiation. We believe that we have reached agreement with the County Planning Authorities regarding the next phase of housing development and, again, we hope to start building before long. You will have seen that we have done a great deal of landscaping and planting and this work will continue until we have achieved the setting we desire. We certainly hope that the Village park will be started this year.

We are anxious to proceed with the formation of the Village Trust and our lawyers are settling the submission to the Minister of Housing before we go to the Court for approval of the Trust Deed.

It certainly seems to me, as it must do to you, that little has happened during the last year but I can assure you that the reorganisation required since our acquisition has been enormous and I am glad to say we are now through with this and all construction can now be regarded as under our own control.

I am very anxious that development of the Village shall be speeded up within the overall concept and I hope soon that you will see the results of our endeavours.

Lastly, I should like to express my thanks to all those people in the Village who have given so much of their time to the wellbeing of all connected with the development, and I am sure I can look forward to your enthusiasm and support in making this—the first Village settlement designed and financed completely by private enterprise—an outstanding success.

Yours faithfully,

V. C. Matthews,
Chairman

W.H.S. Norton Esq.